

Dorset Co-ordinated Admission Scheme 2027-2028

Admissions	Secondary	Primary
Closing date - for applications*	31/10/26	15/01/26
Final EHCP allocations confirmed to School Admissions	15/01/27	14/02/27
Latest Date for Children in Care applications	31/01/27	14/3/27
Application Exchange - Dorset LA exchanges applications with other LAs	16/11/26	1/02/27
Verifying Criteria & Ranking Deadline - for Admission Authorities to complete the process of verifying and confirming the criteria for their applications, ranking those applications and returning them to the Local Authority	11/01/27	08/03/27
First Offer Exchange - First exchange of offers between LAs	25/01/27	15/03/27
Final Offer Exchange - Final exchange of offers between LAs	08/02/27	30/03/27
Final Allocation Notification - Dorset LA to inform all schools of final allocations	22/02/27	09/04/27
Notification Day - Dorset LA sends notification to home applicants (National Offer Day or the next working day if it falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Bank Holiday)	01/03/27	16/04/27
Parents respond to the offer	15/03/27	30/04/27

Dorset Council will have a single late round inline with all neighbouring authorities. The single late round for each cycle will close the day prior to the National Offer Day of that cycle. All applications after the National Offer day will no longer be batch co-ordinated and will be dealt with as In-Year Transfers and will be dealt with as they are received.

Round	Late Closing Date	Late Offer Date	Late Response Date
Secondary Late	28/02/27 Secondary Only	30/03/27 Secondary Only	12/04/27 Secondary Only
Primary Late	15/04/27 Primary Only	14/05/27 Primary Only	28/05/27 Primary Only

Secondary Applications received after 28 February and Primary Applications after the 15 April will be processed as quickly as possible as they are received and as In-Year Transfers. Please note applications received within the last few weeks of term and during the summer holidays may not be processed until the schools return from their summer break.

*Applicants applying on aptitude/ability will be advised of the outcome of the testing (not guarantee of a placement) in good time to complete a preference application by the closing date.